



DELAINE EASTIN  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
EDUCATION

721 Capitol Mall

PO Box 944272

Sacramento, CA

94244-2720

April 23, 2001

To: Superintendents of Grades 4-8

From: Susie Lange, Deputy Superintendent  
Finance, Technology and Administration Branch

Subject: New Education Technology Funding Opportunity

The California Department of Education is launching a new competition for education technology funding to provide districts with funding for:

1. Technology Planning: Successful applicants will receive funding for updating or creating new technology plans consistent with the State Board of Education's new document, *Education Technology Planning: A Guide for School Districts* and/or;
2. Hardware Acquisition: Successful applicants will receive funding for purchasing up-to-date multimedia computers to reduce the student-to-multimedia computer ratio in 4-8 grade classrooms to 10-to-1. This funding will assist schools in meeting the requirements to qualify for the ongoing staff development funding through the *Education Technology Staff Development Program for Grades 4-8* (AB 1339).

This competition is open to districts with at least 40 percent of their total student population living in poverty, based on eligibility for Free or Reduced Price meals in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Program. Visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/tlc> for a list of these districts. If you believe that your district meets the eligibility criterion, but is not on the posted list, please contact the Education Technology Office at (916) 323-5715.

A copy of the Request for Application may be downloaded from the Technology Literacy Challenge Grant page of the Department's Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/tlc>. If you are unable to download the file, please call the Education Technology Office or contact your regional California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP) director.

Please be aware that this competition has been designed to be a fairly easy one for districts. The maximum length of the application is five pages, plus the required forms. Assistance in completing the application is available from CTAP. For contact information for your regional CTAP office, please call the Education Technology Office or download the information from the CTAP link off the Education Technology Office's web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/edtech>.

If at least 40% of your district's students are eligible for Free or Reduced Price meals, I encourage you to consider applying for this funding. If used appropriately, technology can enhance teaching and help our students meet State Academic Content Standards. This funding opportunity will help districts plan for effective use of technology and/or increase students' access to technology in classrooms.

If you have questions regarding this competition, please contact Dr. Joyce Hinkson or Doug Jann in the Education Technology Office at (916) 323-2241 or (916) 445-6815, respectively.